Malaria eradication

†2679. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a national programme is being run to eradicate malaria;

(b) if so, whether any assessment has been made with regard to its effectiveness;

(c) whether it is a fact that a proposal was approved to provide mosquito repellent fog spray machines for increasing the impact of the said programme; and

(d) if so, whether the said proposal is being implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Government of India is implementing National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme for prevention and control of Malaria, Falaria, Kala-azar, Dengue and Japanese Encephalitis. The objective of the malaria control programme is to reduce malaria associated deaths and effective containment of malaria morbidity.

(b) An assessment of the malaria control programme was carried out by an independent organization in the year 2004. The organization observed that the malaria control programme was found to be more effective in rural area compared to urban areas. The delay in complete treatment for malaria was due to manpower constraints (multipurpose workers and Lab. Technicians) and long distance between hamlets and laboratory. Engaging community volunteers from NGOs, tribal departments and Panchayat Raj Institutions was suggested to reduce the time gap in complete treatment. Promotion of use of larvivorous fish by involving fisheries department was suggested. It was also recommended that community should be involved to improve acceptance and coverage of indoor residual spray.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.